

REGULAR SESSION RUSH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OCTOBER 24, 2011

The Rush County Board of Commissioners met in regular session, Monday, October 24, 2011 with Commissioners, Tom Barnes, Marvin Cole, Ken Masters, Jodi Harr, Deputy Auditor, and Leigh Morning, County Attorney in attendance. Deborah Adams, Auditor, was absent due to attending a state called meeting.

Commissioner Tom Barnes called the meeting to order, Marvin Cole made the motion to approve the minutes of the October 11, 2011 meeting as presented. Ken Masters seconded the motion. Motion carried.

RIDE RUSH

Wanda Henderson, Director of the Rush County Senior Center, presented the Quarterly Report ending September 30. Barnes questioned why the report asks for the number of minority passengers who used this service. Henderson stated this report is not a local report. It belongs to the Area 9 District. She will bring this concern to Area 9 at their next meeting.

Henderson also presented the formal contract between the Indian Department of Transportation and Rush County. Masters made the motion to sign the agreement. Cole seconded. Motion carried.

MILROY PROPERTY

John Matney of Glenwood appeared before the commissioners regarding property located at 404 W. Main Street in Milroy. He and his wife are interested in buying the property. The Rush County Commissioners currently hold the deed to the property. Barnes explained that the commissioners are willing to work with him on purchasing the property. Leigh Morning, County Attorney, explained the process would be for the county to get two appraisals on the property, offer the property for sale to the public, and would have to receive at least 90% of the appraised value. Barnes explained that the county would be responsible for obtaining the appraisals and offering the property for sale to the public. Matney will discuss this with his wife and let the Auditor know of their decision.

SHERIFF

Sheriff Jeff Sherwood reported forty-four (44) inmates incarcerated in the Rush County jail.

Sherwood updated the commissioners on the condition of the jail structure. He has noticed an increase in the electric and fuel bills. Upon inspection, it was noted that seals around the doors are coming loose. He asked for permission to have this looked at and repaired. The commissioners told him to go ahead. Sherwood also noted that after the hard rains last week, the roof in the jail is leaking. He has contacted Royalty to come look at it.

HIGHWAY

Jerry Sitton, Highway Superintendent, requested that the commissioners open annual bids for fuel and road material at 9:30 a.m. at the December 5, 2011 commissioner meeting. This would be fuel bids for the Sheriff Department and for the Rush County Highway Department. Cole made the motion to open fuel and material bids for the Highway Department and the Sheriff's Department at 9:30 a.m. December 5, 2011. Masters seconded. Motion carried. Sitton and Sherwood will get the information to the Auditor so the bid specifications can be advertised.

COURTHOUSE

Bill Todd, Area Plan Director, asked what is the status of the heating/air unit repairs and maintenance. Barnes stated that 1/3 of the units are completed. Turnkey will finish the others when they have time. The county is not paying them overtime so we have to work with their time schedules. Todd stated his unit is making a noise so he has turned it off.

Barnes stated that the commissioners are concerned with the fuel bills at the jail and courthouse. They are looking at ways to correct and repair any problems related to this.

Barnes also reported on the status of the courthouse roof. During this last period of rain, three trouble spots were found. Wellman Brothers did come to look at the leaks. Barnes presented photos of the three areas. There is a leak around an antenna, one on the North side of the courthouse causing water damage between the second and third floor stairway landings, and the third is on the third floor. When the weather allows, Wellman Brothers will be back to do the repairs.

Barnes also noted there has been water damage in the basement. The stone structures located on the north side of the building have drain pipes in them that lead to the basement. He is hoping this can be repaired at the same time the steps are being repaired on the north side of the courthouse.

AUDITOR

Jodi Harr, Deputy Auditor, received approval of payment of payroll claims for the payroll ending October 28, 2011 on a motion by Ken Masters. Marvin Cole seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Marvin Cole made the motion to approve Bi-Weekly Claims submitted by October 18, 2011. Ken Masters seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Deborah Adams, Auditor, left a note informing the commissioners that the Tax Sale was held October 20. Twenty-seven (27) properties were offered for sale, sixteen (16) were sold, and eleven (11) had no bids. Barnes noted that in all likely hood the county will have a Commissioner Tax Sale in the spring.

COUNTY LAWSUIT

Leigh Morning, county attorney, notified the commissioners that the complaint filed by the ACLU on behalf of the Ku Klux Klan against the Sheriff's Department and the Rush County Prosecutor has been dismissed.

MISC.

- Annual appointments will be made by the commissioners at their December 5, 2011 meeting.
- Milroy EMS Report for September was presented and reviewed.
- John Saxon asked the commissioner the status of updating minutes on the county's website. APC minutes are still only through 2010. Bill Todd, APC director, noted he is working on getting them updated. Saxon asked if minutes could be archived within the website. Barnes will check with the counties I.T. Director and with Carole Yeend who maintains the website.
- Saxon also noted that he saw a bald eagle off of 44 west this side of the pond.

Motion to adjourn was received from Ken Masters. Marvin Cole seconded the motion. Motion carried.

<u>/s/Tom Barnes</u>	<u>/s/Marvin Cole</u>	<u>/s/Ken Masters</u>
Tom Barnes, Chairman	Marvin Cole	Ken Masters

ATTEST:

/s/Jodi Harr
Jodi Harr, Deputy Auditor